GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:381
ANSWERED ON:16.07.2002
LASHKAR-E-TOIBA ACTIVITIES IN THE CAPITAL
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Police has recently raided possible hideouts of Lashkar-e-Toiba terrorists who were planning to carry out attacks on VIPs and vital installations in the capital as reported in the Statesman dated May 12, 2002;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether Indian citizens are providing shelter to such terrorists;

(d) if so, the facts in this regard; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to nab such terrorists from the selected hideouts and check their activities?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Three militants belonging to Lashkar-e-Toiba were arrested by Delhi Police on 9th May, 2002 and a large quantity of RDX, explosives, arms and ammunition were recovered. Their interrogation revealed the plan of Lashkar-e-Toiba to set up safe hideouts for militants tasked to cause blasts in major industrial areas. On the basis of information provided by them, two other militants, who were Pakistani nationals, were intercepted and killed in an encounter with Delhi Police on the same day.

(c)&(d): There were two isolated incidents during the years 2000 and 2001 and till date in which Indian citizens were found to have provided shelter in Delhi to the terrorists.

(e): The steps taken to curb militant activities in Delhi include intensification of beat patrolling; posting of armed pickets at strategic points; strengthening of intelligence network; close watch and frequent raids at the suspected hide-outs of criminals and terrorists; checking of persons and baggages particularly in crowded market places and places of entertainment; checking of guest houses; and surprise checking of goods vehicles entering the capital, etc.